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[Needs of Present, Future](#)

The information included in this newsletter is designed to answer questions you might have concerning the six proposals on the Dec. 12 ballot.

Just as they did in 1993 and again in 1997, many citizens of Broken Arrow this year have given their time and energies to help analyze the needs of their community and how to best meet those needs. Hours and hours of committee work resulted in a proposal to the City Council of a \$28.5 million bond package which includes funding for street and intersection improvements (\$20,450,000), public safety issues (\$2,700,000) and improvements and additions to the Parks & Recreation and Quality of Life programs (\$5,350,000). Voters in Broken Arrow will vote on six separate proposals on Dec. 12.

The residents who volunteered on those committees, many of whom participated in an open meeting early this year to identify needs which they saw, worked hand-in-hand with many City of Broken Arrow officials in studying the costs of a multitude of programs which were initially proposed.

As these committees on Transportation and Quality of Life put facts and figures to creative approaches to their community's needs for the next several years, those early lists were pared down to the proposals which were presented to the City Council, which approved the bond election.

The City of Broken Arrow has followed a systematic plan of addressing its needs for the future as prioritized by its citizens. Bond issues are proposed three to four years apart so that existing bonds may be paid off before new ones are added. That has enabled city residents and property

owners to enjoy progress while maintaining a fairly level tax payment each year for retirement of those bonds.

This will be the case again this year. If the Dec. 12 bond proposals are passed, the City will work closely with its Financial Adviser so that the sale of these bonds will be scheduled in a manner which will focus on maintaining the property tax at a level, or even a little lower, than they were in 1997. The impact of selling new bonds will be diminished, or possibly offset, by the retirement of bonds previously issued. Currently, the property tax rate is lower than it was in 1997. Upon successful passage of the Dec. 12 bond proposals, and the sale of those bonds, the City anticipates its portion of property tax bills would increase only about \$10 on a home valued at \$100,000 -- about 80 cents per month.



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Wording of the Ballot

Following is the wording from the City Council meeting, approving the call for the Dec. 12 bond election, with six separate proposals:

No. 2303 -- An ordinance not to be codified, authorizing the calling and holding of an election in the City of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, for the purpose of submitting to the registered qualified electors of said City the question of the issuance of the bonds of said City in amounts not to exceed the following sums:





1. Twenty Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$20,450,000) for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing, improving and repairing streets within said City;
 2. Two Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,700,000) for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating and equipping a public safety facility within said City to be owned exclusively by said City;
 3. Three Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,600,000) for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing, improving and repairing the parks and recreation system of the City and of acquiring, constructing, renovating and equipping a new regional park within said City and thereafter to construct and equip a football complex on part, to be owned exclusively by said City; all of the above to be owned exclusively by said City;
 4. One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, a youth/community center within said City to be owned exclusively by said City;
 5. Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating and equipping a simulated train depot for the parks and recreation system of the City to be owned exclusively by said City; and
 6. Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000) for the purpose of improving the facilities of the existing senior center, Historical Society and Genealogy Society complex within the parks and recreation system of the City to be owned exclusively by said City;
- all of the above amounts including costs of issuance; levying and collecting an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in said City for the payment of the interest on and principal of said bonds; authorizing the Mayor to call the election by proclamation and requesting the Tulsa County Election Board to conduct said election and declaring an emergency.

How Much Are We Spending?

Street & Intersection Improvements \$20,450,000

Public Safety Issues \$2,700,000

Parks & Recreation, Quality of Life

-  Park Construction, Improvements \$3,600,000
-  Youth/Community Center \$1,000,000
-  Simulated Train Depot, Centennial Center \$400,000
-  Historical Society, Museum Improvements \$350,000

TOTAL \$28,500,000

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Street, Intersection Improvements

Listed below are the projects included in Proposition No. 1 on the Dec. 12 bond election. These are improvements in intersections or widening of streets in areas which have been designated as top priorities by citizens who served on the committees which helped put this bond issue together.

An estimated cost of each project was provided by City staff.

In establishing priorities for these proposed projects, the committee members examined a large number of possibilities, looking at the costs of each, the traffic flow and what the future holds -- particularly in regards to increased traffic around areas where the South Loop is being constructed and along the major north-south corridors of Elm Place and Aspen. Elm Place carries traffic to and from the Saint Francis at Broken Arrow Hospital and medical complex, as well as serving as a home for two of the City's fire stations. Aspen carries traffic to and from the expanded sports facilities at the Indian Springs Sports Complex, with the widened road there expected to ease much of the traffic through the area neighborhoods during days and nights of sporting events.

Proposition No. 1

Street and Intersection Improvements

Widen to 5 lanes:

Elm Place from Houston (81st) to
Washington (91st)

Elm Place from Washington (91st) to New Orleans (101st)

Elm Place from Florence (111th) to Tucson (121st)

Aspen (145th E. Ave.) from Jasper (131st) to the Indian Springs Sports Complex

Olive (129th E. Ave) from South Loop to Florence (111th)

Widen to 3 lanes:

9th (Lynn Lane) from the Broken Arrow Expressway to Albany (61st)

Tucson (121st) from Elm Place to Aspen (145th E. Ave.)

Tucson (121st) from Aspen (145th E. Ave.) to Olive (129th E. Ave.)

Open to 2 lanes:

Elm Place from Albany (61st) to Omaha (51st)

Intersection and Signal Improvements:

Oneta at Kenosha (241st at 71st)

Evans Road at Kenosha (225th E. Ave. at 71st)

Aspen at Florence (145th E. Ave. at 111th)

Aspen at Tucson (145th E. Ave. at 121st)

New Orleans at Aspen (101st at 145th E. Ave.)

Elm Place at Tucson (161st E. Ave. at 121st)

Albany at 9th (61st at Lynn Lane)

Houston at 9th (81st at Lynn Lane)



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Public Safety

Proposition No. 2

Public Safety

- * Police and Fire Department Training Facility
- * Animal Shelter Improvements
- * Outdoor Warning Sirens (for Flooding, Tornadoes, etc.)
- * Criminal Justice Center at Police Department Headquarters
- * New Fire Station Site (land acquisition)

As the City of Broken Arrow continues to grow, the challenge of protecting its residents will also grow. Fire Station No. 5 was made possible through funding in the 1997 bond issue. Money is included in this bond issue to buy land for a sixth fire station. Acquiring that land now, rather than waiting until later, will save a great deal of money.

Both the Police and Fire departments in Broken Arrow have on-going training requirements which are necessary to maintain expertise and reduce liability.

At the present time, the Fire Department recruits travel to the city of Stillwater and Oklahoma State University to receive entry level training. Police recruits currently attend the Council on Law Enforcement and Education Academy (CLEET) in Broken Arrow. However, CLEET recently received funding from the State Legislature which will enable the construction of a centralized training facility where all recruits will attend -- probably in the Oklahoma City area. Officers must also travel out of town to attend pursuit driving courses, which limits the department's ability to refresh everyone on a regular basis. This was part of the reasoning in

listing the police and fire training facility on the Public Safety portion of the bond proposal. When CLEET no longer provides training in Broken Arrow, the BAPD could train its own recruits if the new training center is built.

It would include a reception area, offices for both Police and Fire, classrooms (with at least one of those designed for public meetings), a fitness/drill area where situational exercises could be facilitated, a weight room, locker rooms for both men and women, storage, and a driving course for emergency vehicle training in both police and fire departments. The fitness/drill area could also be used to accommodate large group meetings on an as-needed basis.

The pursuit driving course would include the police fitness obstacle course and the K-9 training course, intermingled within the green spaces and thus addressing multiple needs.

Another use for the facility would be a site for the Citizens Police Academy and the Junior Police Academy (a program which won the City a statewide award this year). It could also serve as a future police substation for field services to the east and northeast portions of Broken Arrow. Having a joint Police/Fire Training Center would also provide a facility for both classroom and practice training. It would provide office space for a training staff and free up space currently being used at City Hall.

The Fire Department would be able to utilize the training center for Basic Fire Academy programs, defensive driving classes which would be away from public streets and parking lots, a library for easy access to manuals and training materials and would be the first step in having a first-class training facility that would eventually provide props for all types of fire rescues, EMS training, hazardous material handling and more. It could also host specialized training classes conducted by the Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training and the National Fire Academy.

Another key part of the Public Safety package is funding for additional warning sirens that could be used during floods and tornadoes, the site for a new fire station to be built in the future and a first phase of a criminal justice center, including a new municipal court room, property room, crime lab and jail which could be moved eventually from their current locations in City Hall.

The increasing case load and confidentiality requirements involving juveniles could also be moved to the new center, as could counseling work with victims of domestic violence.

Animal Shelter Improvements

A portion of the funding from the Public Safety proposal on the Dec. 12 bond issue would be used to make improvements and additions to the City's Animal Shelter.

A community survey and input from a number of volunteers centered around enlargement and modernization of the Shelter's lobby and visitor area, as well as the main office. Space can be added to the north side of the building, which would make these improvements possible.

There are several needs in the area of building repair which also need to be addressed, making the Shelter a safer, more comfortable facility in which to house dogs, cats and other animals while new homes for them are being sought -- or while their owners are looking for them!

Recommendations have been made to improve the overall ventilation system and the interior lighting in the facility. That system would be better for the animals and would also help control animal odors and promote a healthier environment for employees.

Additional kennels and cat cage areas are also needed, particularly in light of Broken Arrow's continued growth indicators for the future.



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Parks, Recreation Projects

Proposition No. 3 Parks & Recreation

- + New Swimming Pool for Country Aire Park
- + Youth Football Complex
- + New Buford Park and Jackson Park development on West Houston and West Washington
- + Centennial Park
- + Park Improvements in 13 other neighborhood Parks
- + Regional Park Land Acquisition (minimum of 100 acres)

A Closer Look at Park Projects

Following is a more detailed look at the proposals which would affect the City's Park system:
 Buford Tract Development: \$150,000. This project would develop the currently owned land into a Neighborhood Park. The land is located to the north of Houston and to the east of Garnett.

Jackson Park Development: \$100,000. This would fund construction of the fourth year in a four-year planned project. The Jackson family donated the land to the City of Broken Arrow, and the land is located on the northeast corner of Garnett and Washington.

New Spray Pool at Rockwood West Park: \$50,000. Would add a new summer program for youths in this area.

Indian Springs Sports Complex, baseball maintenance building expansion: \$65,000.

Indian Springs Sports Complex, fencing for new soccer and adult softball complex: \$35,000.

Indian Springs Sports Complex, asphalt paving for patrons walking and seating areas at baseball: \$45,000

Lions Park Picnic Shelter: \$12,000

Urbana Park Picnic Shelter: \$12,000

Copper Creek Park Walking Trail Extension: \$25,000

Indian Springs Mini-Park play system: \$14,000

Rockwood East Park, play system: \$15,000

Timberbrook Park play system: \$15,000

Vandever Park tennis court lights: \$10,000

Central Pool Aquatic Center flume slide (\$32,000) and Water Playground (\$70,000)

Proposition No. 4 Youth/Community Center

Construction of a facility to be used as a Youth and Community Center for Broken Arrow youth programs, meeting space for the general public use and future expansion of recreational uses.

Proposition No. 5 Railroad Depot

Construction of a replica of the old train depot near downtown in conjunction with Broken Arrow's Centennial Celebration. The facility would house historical memorabilia, provide

education to the general public and school children and provide public meeting space.

Proposition No. 6 Senior/Historical/Genealogical Center

Provides for the enlargement of the current Senior Center at Main Place, enabling them to expand their activities and food programs. It would also provide for the enhancement of the Historical Society and Museum and Genealogical Society missions. Those facilities are located in The Main Place, 1800 S. Main, but all have outgrown their existing space.



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Status Report: 1997 Bond Issue Projects

1997 Bond Issue Status Report

5-lane Kenosha (Aspen to Garnett): 95% Complete
5-lane Aspen (Expressway to Omaha): Under construction
5-lane County Line (Kenosha to Albany): Complete
3-lane Houston (Aspen to Garnett): Awaiting right-of-way
3-lane Houston (Elm to Aspen): Under construction
5-lane Aspen (Washington to New Orleans): Under construction
3-lane New Orleans (Aspen to Elm): Under construction
Open Washington (County Line to Hwy 51): Awaiting South Loop
Install signals at Garnett & New Orleans: 95% complete
Install signals at Aspen & Omaha: Completed
Install signals at Aspen & Florence: Completed
Install signals at Lynn Lane & Washington: Completed
Install signals at Olive & New Orleans: Completed
Signal improvements at Aspen & Kenosha: Completed
Signal improvements at Aspen & Washington: Completed
Signal improvements at Elm & Kenosha: Completed
Signal improvements at Elm & Washington: Completed
Signal improvements at Elm & New Orleans: Completed
Signal improvements at Elm & Florence: Completed
Signal improvements at Houston & Lynn Lane: Completed
Signal improvements at Houston & County Line: Completed
Outdoor warning sirens: Completed
Construct Fire Station No. 5: Completed
Linear Park at Haikey Creek: Working on plans
Rebuild Central Pool: Completed
Refurbish & renovate parks: Completed
Parking Lots at Indian Springs Sports Complex: Completed
Parking Lots at Arrowhead Park: Completed
New soccer complex at ISSC: Under construction



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